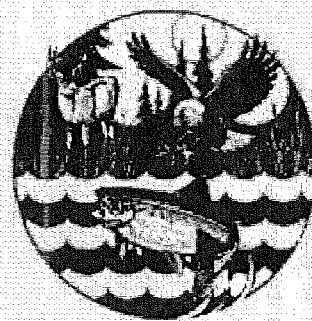


# GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

P. O. Box 9 • Odanah, WI 54861 • 715/682-6619 • FAX 715/682-9294



## • MEMBER TRIBES •

### MICHIGAN

Bay Mills Community  
Keweenaw Bay Community  
Lac Vieux Desert Band

### WISCONSIN

Bad River Band  
Lac Courte Oreilles Band  
Lac du Flambeau Band  
Red Cliff Band  
St. Croix Chippewa  
Sokaogon Chippewa

### MINNESOTA

Fond du Lac Band  
Mille Lacs Band

August 13, 2014

### Via Electronic Mail (Original via Mail)

Gina McCarthy, Administrator  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Susan Hedman, Regional Administrator  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region V  
77 West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: Resolution in Support of Lake Superior Basin and Watershed Mining Analysis

Dear Administrator McCarthy and Regional Administrator Hedman,

I am pleased to transmit to you the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission Board of Commissioners' Resolution No. BOC-07-29-2014-01. The Commission notes that a number of its member Tribes as well as a number of other Tribes in the region have expressed concern about the impacts of metallic mining activities on tribal rights and interests. They have asked the Environmental Protection Agency to fulfill treaty obligations and trust responsibilities in this regard. As expressed in Resolution No. BOC-07-29-2014-01, the Commission supports a study of the cumulative impacts of mineral resource development on the Lake Superior basin. See Deschampe, et. al, to McCarthy, May 15, 2014. The Board also supports the request by a number of its member Tribes for the Agency to initiate the process provided for in Section 404(c) of the Clean Water Act with respect to the Bad River watershed in relation to mining activities. See Wiggins to McCarthy and Hedman, May 27, 2014.

The Commission appreciates your consideration of these requests and urges you to expeditiously undertake the requested actions. We stand ready to assist with these endeavors in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time if have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

James E. Zorn  
Executive Administrator

cc: GLIFWC Board of Commissioners

OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

2014 AUG 19 PM 12:25

RECEIVED

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Mille Lacs Band



## Resolution in Support of Lake Superior Basin and Watershed Mining Analyses

RESOLUTION NO. BOC--07-29-2014-01

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) is an intertribal agency exercising delegated sovereign authority from 11 federally recognized Anishinaabe Tribes in Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota which have retained hunting, fishing, and gathering rights in territories ceded to the United States in the Treaties of 1836, 1837, 1842, and 1854; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's mission includes a duty to assist its member Tribes in the conservation and management of natural resources throughout the ceded territories, thereby ensuring access to the traditional pursuits of the Anishinaabeg; and

WHEREAS, the Anishinaabe lifeway, as recognized and protected by federal courts, depends upon clean and healthy natural resources for cultural, religious, medicinal, subsistence and economic purposes; and

WHEREAS, myriad threats to the ceded territories and the Lake Superior basin already have negatively impacted, and have the potential to further negatively impact natural resources and, as a result, tribal lifeways; and

WHEREAS, one such threat is a plan to develop an open pit iron mine in the headwaters of the Bad River watershed, a part of the 1842 ceded territory; and

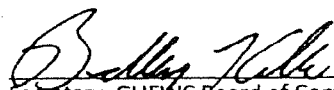
WHEREAS, GLIFWC member Tribes have long been concerned about the additive and cumulative effects of mining and other land use changes on the quality and quantity of ceded territory natural resources.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission does hereby support the recent request made by several GLIFWC member Tribes to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to study the cumulative impacts of mineral resource development on the Lake Superior basin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission supports the Tribes' request to EPA that it analyze the Bad River watershed specifically to determine whether the mine proposed there would have "unacceptable adverse effects on fisheries, wildlife, shellfish beds, municipal water supplies, or recreational areas."

## CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby certify that the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission Board of Commissioners is composed of 11 members, of whom 11 members, constituting a quorum, were present and voting at a meeting hereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 29th day of July, 2014; that an affirmative vote of 11 members; 0 against; and 0 abstaining, and the said resolution has not been rescinded or amended.

  
Secretary, GLIFWC Board of Commissioners



72682 Maple St.  
Post Office Box 9  
Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

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AUG 19 2014

Gina McCarthy, Administrator  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

